

Borough of Tenby

1972

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

DISTRICT
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B O R O U G H O F T E N B Y .

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR

1972.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Tenby

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough during 1972.

HOUSING.

During the year, the council housing estate at Tudor Way was completed and 27 new dwellings on this site were made available for occupation. In addition, a large number of grants were approved by the Council for the improvement of older, private properties. The total number of council houses and flats is 463, but there still remains a long waiting list of families requiring permanent accommodation. A considerable number of elderly people in the Borough would benefit from the provision of suitable sheltered housing with a warden service.

In October, 1972, the Housing Finance Act became law, instituting a system of rent rebates for tenants whose income falls below a certain level.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

I am glad to report that only a few cases of infectious diseases were notified to me during 1972. There were 7 children notified as suffering from measles, which is a similar number to that occurring in 1971. The only other cases notified were 1 case of infective jaundice and 1 case of respiratory tuberculosis.

Once again, it is pleasing to report that no cases of food poisoning were notified to me during the year, which is commendable in view of the vast holiday-catering carried on in the Borough.

As in previous years, a certain amount of non-specific enteritis occurred mainly in the late summer and autumn. This was not confined to the Tenby area, but was present in the whole of the County. This illness was generally mild in character and is believed to be due to a virus infection which is spread from person to person and is unconnected with food or water supplies.

In December, 1972, an outbreak of influenza occurred locally; this was caused by the influenza virus type A England 42/72 and continued into the early months of 1973. The outbreak was not an extensive one.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

As indicated by the Public Health Inspector, the excellent service provided continues to operate satisfactorily; disposal of refuse from the Borough continued at Kingsmoor Common, by arrangement with the Narberth Rural District Council. The extent of this service can be appreciated from the fact that the population rises from 4,610 in winter to a total of 18,399 residents, with an additional estimated 11,518 day-visitors in the summer months.

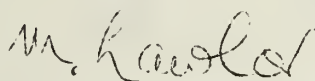
CARAVANNING AND CAMPING.

The 5 caravan sites in the Borough attracted a capacity number of holiday-makers during the season and all sites are generally of high standard. The Tourist Information Centre at Bogelly provides an important service in directing touring caravans and tourists to other sites with available vacancies, in the south of the County, when the more popular sites in the Borough are full.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Members of the Council and its Officers for their courtesy and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,



MICHAEL LAWLOR, M.B., B.Ch.,
D.C.H., D.P.H.,

The Clinic,
Warren Street,
TENBY.

Tel: TENBY 2991/2

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S.

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 1972 4,610

	<u>Boro.of</u> <u>Tenby 1972.</u>	<u>Boro.of</u> <u>Tenby 1971.</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke.</u>	<u>England &</u> <u>Wales.</u>
Live Births	58	57		
Live Birth Rate(per 1,000 pop.)	12.6	12.3	15.1	14.8
Illegitimate Live Births	6	7		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	10	12	9	9
Still Births	2	1		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	33	17	12	12
Total Live & Still Births	60	58		
Infant Deaths(Deaths under 1yr)	2	Nil		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)				
- total	34	Nil	20	17
- legitimate	38	Nil	21	17
- illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	21
Neo-natal Mortality Rate(Deaths under 4wks) (per 1,000 Live Births)	Nil	Nil	11	12
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate(Deaths under 1wk) (per 1000 Live Births)	Nil	Nil	9	10
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1wk & Still Births combined)(per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	33	17	21	22
Maternal Deaths	Nil	Nil		
Deaths	56	68		
Death Rate(per 1,000 pop.)	12.1	14.7	12.9	12.1

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INFANT DEATHS.

Two male infants died during the year, one at home and one in hospital; details are as follows :-

<u>Age at death.</u>	<u>Cause of death.</u>
2 months.	Collapsed lung.
3 months.	Intestinal obstruction and pneumonia.

DEATHS.

Of the total 56 deaths this year, heart disease again accounted for the largest number - 28; malignant disease accounted for 7 deaths, but it is pleasing to note that not one death was due to cancer of the lung.

Approximately 30.3% of the deaths occurred in persons aged between 70 and 80 years and approximately 32% in persons aged over 80 years.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	30	26
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.,	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	
Other malignant neoplasms	1	2
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
Other endocrine diseases, etc.,	1	-
Hypertensive disease	-	1
Ischaemic heart disease	18	9
Cerebro-vascular disease	1	5
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	4
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	-
Peptic ulcer	1	-
Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.,	1	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1
All other accidents	-	1

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified to me from the Borough during 1972 :-

7 Measles.
1 Infective Jaundice.
1 Respiratory Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No deaths from tuberculosis occurred during the year and only one new case of respiratory tuberculosis - a male patient in the 20 -24years age group - was notified.

Prevention of Tuberculosis: The annual visit to Greenhill County Secondary School was made in the autumn when all 13 year old pupils were offered B.C.G. vaccination. A total of 148 children were skin tested and 129 of these required vaccination. Examination and vaccination of contacts continues to be carried out by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Local Health Services: Vaccinations and immunisations continued at the weekly infant welfare clinic during the year and school entrants were given 'booster' doses during the Spring Term. 13 year old girls were offered vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) during the Summer Term.

The following details relate to the children under 16 years of age in the whole of Pembrokeshire, who received immunisation and vaccination during 1972:

Triple Immunisations:	1,457
Booster Diphtheria/ Tetanus doses:	1,213
Whooping cough Immunisations:	1,457
Tetanus immunisations:	1,650
Booster Tetanus doses:	1,455
Poliomyelitis vaccinations:	1,515
Booster Polio. vaccinations:	1,174
B.C.G. vaccinations:	1,081
Measles vaccinations:	640
Rubella vaccinations:	480

Ambulance Service:

Two ambulances are still based at Tenby and controlled by the County Ambulance Control at Haverfordwest.

During 1972, Ambulance No.1 travelled a total of 30,063 miles conveying 1,811 sitting patients and 276 stretcher patients; the second vehicle travelled 29,478 miles conveying 1,422 sitting patients and 512 stretcher patients.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 & 1951.

Section 47: Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was necessary to remove one male patient from his home in the Borough to hospital, under the above Section, in 1972.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

HOUSING OFFICER'S REPORT

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D.H.W.GRIFFITHS.

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REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1972.

HOUSING.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts).	...	202
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	Nil
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	42
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority.	...	42

HOUSING ACTS.

It can be said that the general condition of living accommodation in the town is satisfactory but a constant vigilance must be kept with a view to detecting individual houses or dwellings that, due to their age and character, fall short of the requirements of good accommodation due to the lack of maintenance by absentee landlords. One such tenement block of dwellings is fast becoming in a state unfitting for human habitation, but it would appear that the landlord has plans for rehabilitating the building into good modern day standard flats.

HOUSE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Improvement Grants Approved	...	70
Standard Grants Approved	...	3

There is no question that the Government policy to increase the Country's housing stock augmented by the increase in Improvement Grant payments has been successful. Whether this is morally successful or not is another question, but new and improved accommodation has been created to the betterment of the Country's stock of houses as a whole. Council will see that our figures have risen appreciably from last year. Our policy in relation to this matter of improving dwellings must continue but a wary eye must be kept in our determination within our discretionary powers on holiday accommodation that will not appreciate the number of houses for ordinary people seeking permanent occupancy.

COUNCIL HOUSE ALLOCATION.

I am pleased to report that 27 units of Council accommodation were brought into use this year.

Council can take pride in the general development of Tudor Way as a small Council House Estate and hope that the tenants will take pride in an environment which is above normal in Council development.

The question of suitable Old Age Pensioner accommodation is one that the Council must always be mindful of in that it can serve two purposes; aiding the Old Age Pensioner and also releasing larger Council accommodation to families by rehousing the Old Age Pensioners sitting tenants. The location of such accommodation is best made, obviously, near the shopping area but I believe that with the advent of reorganisation such dwellings will be welcome anywhere within reasonable distance from the town.

COUNCIL HOUSE ALLOCATION.

Allocations made:

Number of houses allocated 4 bedroomed	...	2
Number of houses allocated 3 bedroomed	...	37
Number of houses allocated 2 bedroomed	...	2
Number of flats allocated 2 bedroomed	...	21
Number of old-age-pensioner bungalows allocated	...	2
Tenancy Exchange	...	10

COUNCIL HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

Table showing Council House Accommodation.

<u>LOCATION.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>4</u> <u>Beds.</u>	<u>3</u> <u>Beds.</u>	<u>2</u> <u>Beds.</u>	<u>1</u> <u>Beds.</u>	<u>2 Bed</u> <u>Flats.</u>
Newell Hill.	56	-	44	-	-	12
Maudlins.	35	-	35	-	-	-
The Glebe.	89	-	89	-	-	-
Knowling Mead.	107	2	68	9	4	24
Augustus Place.	22	-	-	-	22	-
Churchill Close.	24	-	-	-	-	24
Heywood Court.	71	-	-	-	23	48
Jones Terrace.	8	-	-	-	8	-
Leach Way.	24	-	24	-	-	-
Tudor Way.	27	2	25	-	-	-
TOTALS:	463	4	285	9	57	108

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

As always my function under the Food Hygiene Regulations has played a prominent part in my day to day routine.

It can not be too frequently said that the production of good wholesome, clean food is the corner stone on which the holiday industry is based. More and more people are being educated into thinking of environmental matters and therefore their appreciation of hygiene standards within the catering industry will develope.

I can forsee that in the forseeable future premises engaged in food business will have to be licensed on a year to year basis to carry on their business of food production. Indeed this will be the case under the Fire Precautions Act demanding that certain holiday accommodation must be licensed before being allowed to take in guests. It would appear to me that any caterer of any size would welcome this licensing procedure in that they would be proud to be associated with standards of Food Hygiene that meet with the law and the ideology that they care for their patrons.

CONDEMNATION OF FOOD.

<u>Class of Food.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Weight. Qtrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Tinned Meat.	-	2	3	6
Fresh Meat.	-	2	-	-
Tinned Fruit.	-	3	-	8
Tinned Vegetables.	-	1	1	2
Tinned Fish.	-	-	4	3
Fresh Vegetables.	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Foods.	-	-	-	--

FACTORIES ACT 1961.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on Register.</u>	<u>Inspec- tions.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>	<u>Prosec- utions.</u>
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	7	73	-	-
2. Factories not included (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	37	101	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACTS 1963.

Section 48.

No accidents were reported to me under the provisions of the Act during the year, Due to the character of the town as a holiday centre the administration of this Act to some extent is difficult, in that business people only employ staff during the summer season and revert to self employment and family staffing during the winter months.

Therefore the staff analysis given below may not be totally correct but certainly are taken from returns made to me.

No. of Premises registered during 1972.

						Total.
Offices.	...	...	...	...	Nil	29
Retail Shops.	...	...	...	...	1	83
Wholesale Shops.	...	...	...	...	Nil	3
Catering Establishments.	...	...	...	...	2	32
Fuel Storage Depots.	...	...	...	...	Nil	-
					3	147

Analysis of Persons Employed.

Offices	...	...	...	...	...	88)		
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	355	)	Males	202
Wholesale Shops	...	...	...	...	...	6	)	Females	515
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	263)		
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	5)		

RODENT CONTROL.

I am pleased to report that the general Rodent population in the town is of minimal consequence. All complaints are dealt with by the Rodent Operative and only Warfarine bait is used. No immunity has shown itself in the Rodent population to this bait.

The sewers of the town were treated during the year.

The refuse tip is periodically visited and only on two occasions was it necessary to lay Warfarine bait with good results.

Rat Infestations	...	201
Mouse Infestations	...	25

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960.

I made regular inspections of all our Caravan and Tent Sites and found the general conditions prevailing to be very good. It is interesting to note that the type of caravan stationed on our licensed pitches can be described as good to very good and kept in a clean and well ordered state.

I received no complaints from any holiday maker occupying such units and indeed this must reflect that the management of our licensed sites is doing the job well.

Five Licensed Caravan Sites exist in the Borough Area.

1.	Kiln Park and Quarry Site	...	...	...	...	600 pitches
2.	Salterns	...	...	...	...	50
3.	Zion Gardens	...	...	...	...	20
4.	Meadow Farm	...	...	...	...	15
5.	Windmills	...	...	...	...	15

WATER SUPPLY.

Water Samples taken during the year included:-

20 Chemical Samples.

46 Bacteriological Samples.

The River Ritic continues to serve as a raw water source supply during the peak period in the Summer Season. I understand that the Pembrokeshire Water Board do make periodical visits to the catchment area of this supply in order to determine any possible sources of contamination.

I sincerely hope that this vigilance does continue throughout the year to safeguard against the danger of unscrupulous persons depositing dangerous waste on land within this river basin.

It has become abundantly clear that Government is deeply concerned in the contamination of land and water through deposits of poisonous waste. This concern brought about the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act 1972, carrying fines of £400 and it is hoped that this will have the effect of discouraging the depositing of waste in the country-side.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The refuse disposal service again proved itself to be second to none and with the help of the facilities provided at Begelly tip I think that my refuse team must be complimented on a job well done.

The future of the refuse service when the new South Pembrokeshire Local Authority takes over must be safeguarded to allow a daily service within the town. It must be emphasised that although the town of Tenby is itself small in size and population, the problem of refuse is immense during the Summer holiday season and this is a factor that the new Authority must appreciate to safeguard the town's image and public health.

